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Operational activities for development

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Operational activities for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Noting with concern the declining trends in real contributions to operational activities for development,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[1] and of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;[2]

2. *Also takes note of* Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/2 of 18 July 2008 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Report of the Secretary-General on trends in contribution to operational activities for development of the United Nations system and measures to promote an adequate, predictable and expanding base of United Nations development assistance (A/63/201); report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006 (A/63/71-E/2008/46); and report of the Secretary-General on the implications of aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development (A/63/207).

[2] A/63/205.

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62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

Funding of operational activities of the United Nations development system

3. *Reiterates* paragraphs 18 to 20 of the Economic and Social Council resolution on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006;[3]

4. *Expresses concern* at:

(a) The reduction in the contributions received by the United Nations system for operational activities;

(b) The continued and growing imbalance between core and non-core funding;

(c) The lack of progress towards greater predictability and adequacy of funding;

5. *Recognizes* the steps taken by the Secretary-General thus far with a view to mobilizing political will to increase official development assistance as well as to promote an upward trend in real contributions, secure greater predictability and ensure appropriate balance between core and non-core resources for the United Nations system's development assistance;

6. *Reaffirms* the fundamental importance of core resources to the fulfilment of the mandates of the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

7. *Urges* donor countries and other countries in a position to do so to substantially increase their voluntary contributions to the core/regular budgets of the United Nations development system, in particular its funds, programmes and specialized agencies, and to contribute on a multi-year basis, in a sustained and predictable manner;

8. *Invites* countries to consider increasing their contributions to the budgets of the specialized agencies in order to enable the United Nations development system to respond in a more comprehensive and effective manner to the demands of the United Nations development agenda;

9. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations development system, if they have not done so, to consider implementing flexible mechanisms to mobilize more predictable levels of voluntary contributions to their core operational programmes;

10. *Also encourages in this regard* the organizations of the United Nations system, if they have not done so, to mobilize and allocate resources on the basis of a consolidated multi-year resource programming framework, including both core and non-core resources, so that all contributions accrued to them for their operational activities are subject to the overall development priorities and to the overall priorities of programme countries;

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[3] Report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006 (A/63/71-E/2008/46).

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take, in full consultation with Member States, further measures:

(a) To promote an adequate and expanding base of development assistance from the United Nations system, taking into account, inter alia, the development priorities of programme countries;

(b) To promote the continuation of the upward trend in real contributions to operational activities for development to identify obstacles to the achievement of that goal and to make appropriate recommendations in this regard;

(c) To promote the predictability and the multi-year pledging of funding for operational activities for development;

(d) To promote an appropriate balance between core and non-core contributions;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report on measures taken in response to paragraph 11 above and which also contains information on contributions made to the United Nations operational activities in particular and official development assistance in general as well as feedback from the developed countries on obstacles to the achievement of the aims elaborated in paragraph 11 above;

Aligning the strategic planning cycles of the United Nations funds and programmes with the comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

13. *Decides* to change the comprehensive policy review of operational activities from a triennial to a quadrennial cycle in order to better provide policy guidance to the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies;

14. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme to implement the changes, if any, required to align their planning cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including budgetary processes, as necessary, and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session on adjustments made to fit the new comprehensive review cycle;

15. *Recommends* that the Executive Board of the World Food Programme consider changing the Programme's planning cycle in order to align its strategic plan with the new quadrennial policy review, by adopting a fixed four-year planning period, starting in ..., with a mechanism that enables sufficient flexibility to adjust and respond to emerging situations in line with its mandates;

South-South cooperation

16. *Welcomes* the fourth cooperation framework for South-South cooperation, and requests the relevant organizations of the United Nations development system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, to take the necessary actions to fully implement it and in this regard, encourages Member States in a position to do so to support the United Nations Development Programme and the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation in implementing the framework.